

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

PURPOSE: This policy establishes guidelines to protect UM employees from hazards associated with work on or around energized electrical circuits and to meet the requirements of the NFPA-70E Standard.

TERMS & DEFINITIONS

Refer to NFPA 70E

- *Energized Electrical Work* - Any work on electrical equipment, circuits, devices, systems, or any other energized part(s) where an employee is required to deliberately, or could accidentally, place any part of their body, tool or material into or around such electrical devices where the voltage has been deemed to be in excess of 50 volts.

Energized electrical work includes working on or near any energized electrical system, whether alternating or direct current, including, but not limited to, service entrance sections, distribution switchgear, transformers, distribution panels, UPS Systems and branch circuit wiring and may include, but not be limited to:

1. Voltage testing
2. Circuit testing
3. Trouble-shooting
4. Power switching
5. De-energizing and re-energizing procedures
6. Pushing/pulling fish tape or wire into an energized enclosure
7. Work performed on energized enclosures
8. Excavations near underground electrical lines
9. Alternative energy systems (such as solar cells or geothermal)

POLICY: Each campus shall establish a written electrical safety program. All circuits will be de-energized before any employee works on them, unless justified per NFPA 70E. At a minimum, the program will cover:

- Roles and responsibilities
- Training requirements
- Recordkeeping requirements
- Program management and review procedures
- Steps that must be performed before an employee may work on an energized circuit
- Arc Flash rated PPE and when it is appropriate to wear each category
- Inspection/audit of program
- Arc Flash testing for new buildings/remodeling (per University AHJ)

PROCEDURES & PRACTICES: Refer to electrical safety procedural guide for details. If after reviewing you have any questions, please reach out to EHS for clarification.

Reference(s): NFPA-70E Standard